

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Claim 1. A fence spacer for maintaining a pair of fence wires in a desired common plane and spaced a desired distance apart, the spacer comprising a spacer body having first and second parallel edges positionable to be oriented substantially parallel to the desired common plane of the wires; a first pair of generally S-shaped tabs along the first edge; a second pair of generally S-shaped tabs along the first edge and spaced apart from the first pair of tabs; a third pair of generally S-shaped tabs located along the second edge; and a fourth pair of generally S-shaped tabs along the second edge and spaced apart from the third pair of tabs, wherein the spacer is installed by snap-fitting the first and second pair of tabs onto a first one of the wires and snap-fitting the third and fourth pair of tabs onto a second one of the wires, with the first and second pairs of tabs maintaining the first wire closely adjacent the first edge and the third and fourth pairs of tabs maintaining the second wire closely adjacent the second edge.

Claim 2. The fence spacer of claim 1, wherein each tab defines a channel for cradling a portion of the wire.

Claim 3. The fence spacer of claim 1, wherein the spacer body is generally X-shaped.

Claim 4. The fence spacer of claim 1, wherein the spacer body is generally rectangular.

Claim 5. The fence spacer of claim 1, further comprising first, second, third, and fourth arms extending from the spacer body, with the first pair of tabs extending from the first arm, the second pair of tabs extending from the second arm, the third pair of tabs extending from the third arm, and the fourth pair of tabs extending from the fourth arm.

Claim 6. The spacer of claim 1, wherein the fence spacer is usable to space electric fence wires consisting of a ground wire and an electrically powered wire, and wherein one of the tabs of the first pair of tabs is electrically conductive and one of the tabs of the third pair of tabs is electrically conductive, and the spacer further comprises an electrically powerable light source positioned adjacent the spacer body, a first conductor extending between the electrically conductive tab of the first pair of tabs and the light source and a second conductor extending between the electrically conductive tab of the third pair of tabs and the light source, wherein when the fence is functioning the light will be illuminated.

Claim 7. A fence spacer for maintaining a pair of fence wires in a desired common plane and spaced a desired distance apart, the spacer comprising a spacer body

and a plurality of first loops configured to cradle a first one of the fence wires and a plurality of second loops configured to cradle a second one of the fence wires

Claim 8. The spacer of claim 7, further comprising a plurality of slots extending through the spacer body, wherein each of the first and second loops substantially spans one of the slots.

Claim 9. The fence spacer of claim 7, wherein the spacer body is generally X-shaped.

Claim 10. The fence spacer of claim 7, wherein the spacer body is generally rectangular.

Claim 11. A fence spacer for maintaining a pair of fence wires in a desired common plane and spaced a desired distance apart, the spacer comprising a spacer body having first and second parallel edges positionable to be substantially parallel to the desired common plane of the wires; a first wire retaining member along the first edge; a second wire retaining member along the first edge and spaced apart from the first wire retaining member; a third wire retaining member located along the second edge; and a fourth wire retaining member along the second edge and spaced apart from the third wire retaining member, wherein the spacer is installed by snap-

fitting the first and second wire retaining members onto a first one of the wires and  
10 snap-fitting the third and fourth wire retaining members onto a second one of the wires,  
with the first and second wire retaining members maintaining the first wire closely  
adjacent the first edge and the third and fourth wire retaining members maintaining the  
second wire closely adjacent the second edge.

Claim 12. The spacer of claim 11, wherein the wire retaining members  
comprise S-shaped tabs.

Claim 13. The spacer of claim 11, wherein the wire retaining members  
comprise loops for cradling the wires.

5 Claim 14. The spacer of claim 11, wherein the fence spacer is usable to space  
electric fence wires consisting of a ground wire and an electrically powered wire, and  
wherein the first and third wire retaining members are electrically conductive, and the  
spacer further comprises an electrically powerable light source positioned adjacent the  
spacer body, a first conductor extending between the first wire retaining member and  
the light source and a second conductor extending between the third wire retaining  
member and the light source, wherein when the fence is functioning the light will be  
illuminated.